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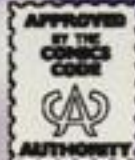
NO.27 US \$1.79
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Enter The Exotic And Exciting World Of...

KNUCKLES

THE ECHIDNA



DIRECT EDITION

GALAN
PENDERS'9

KNUCKLES™

BOOK TWENTY-SEVEN THE FIRST DATE

PART TWO OF THREE

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BORN TO THE MOST NOBLE OF ECHIDNA HOUSES, THE LATEST TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY HERITAGE AND RESPONSIBILITY AS GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, DEFENDER OF ALL AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL FROM THE WORLD BEYOND AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN FROM WITHIN!

ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

OUR STORY THUS FAR...

UPON HEARING OF CHARMY'S ENGAGEMENT TO SAFRON, VECTOR IS CHALLENGED BY THE CHAOTIX TO LAND HIMSELF A DATE. MEANWHILE, JULIE-SU IS IN A FUNK ABOUT HER UNCERTAIN RELATIONSHIP WITH KNUCKLES AND ENDS UP MEETING RAYNOR, A SON TO THE MORE PROMINENT ECHIDNA LINEAGES. AS FOR KNUCKLES, HE FINDS HIMSELF ASKING ABOUT THE BIRDS AND THE BEES, IN PARTICULAR HIS FEELINGS FOR JULIE-SU, AND DECIDES TO TAKE ACTION...

Knuckles The Echidna (ISSN:1523-2263), No. 27, Aug., 1999. Published monthly by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberkleit, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies \$1.79 in the U.S.; \$1.99 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. \$21.48 for 12 issues; \$23.88 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. SEGA is registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Knuckles The Echidna and all related characters and indicia are trademarks of SEGA. © 1999 SEGA. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to Knuckles The Echidna, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada

ARCHY!

HAS YOUR ANTENNAE
SCRAMBLED THE RECEPTION
TO YOUR BRAIN?!

WHAT WOULD
MAKE YOU BRING
US TO THIS
HIGH-FALOOTIN'
HANG OUT?

I THOUGHT
YOU SAID YOU HAD
SOMETHING TO DISCUSS
WITH JULIE-SLI,
M'BOY!

SHE'S OVER
THERE!

OHMYGOSH!!!!
SHE'S GONNA SEE
ME IF I STAY
HERE!!!

WELL, YES!
THAT'S A DISTINCT
POSSIBILITY!

HOW ELSE
DO YOU EXPECT TO
TELL HER
WHAT'S ON YOUR
MIND?

ARE YOU
NUTS?!!

NOT IN THIS
PLACE!!

OH,
I DON'T
KNOW!

THE LOCALE
SEEMS AN AGREEABLE
CHOICE TO ME!

IS SOMETHING THE
MATTER, RAYNOR?
YOU JUST ZONED
OUT ON ME!

MY
APOLOGIES,
JULIE-SLI--

"-- BUT I WAS JUST
DISTRACTED BY THE
SIGHT OF SOME POOR
LOST SOUL OFF NEAR
THE KITCHEN!"

SHE'S TURNING
AROUND, ARCHY!

I GOTTA
DUCK OUTTA
SIGHT!



WHY, YOU'RE THE
GUARDIAN!!

IT'S BEEN A
LONG TIME SINCE WE'VE
SERVED ANYONE OF YOUR
STATURE!

PLEASE PARDON
MY SUPREME
IGNORANCE!

I'LL HAVE ONE
OF THE HIRED HELP
CLEAN THAT!

ON SECOND
THOUGHT, ALLOW
ME!

NO! NO!
IT WAS MY
FAULT!

I CAN
CLEAN IT
UP!

HOPEFULLY
BEFORE
ANYONE ELSE
SEES OR
RECOGNIZES
ME!



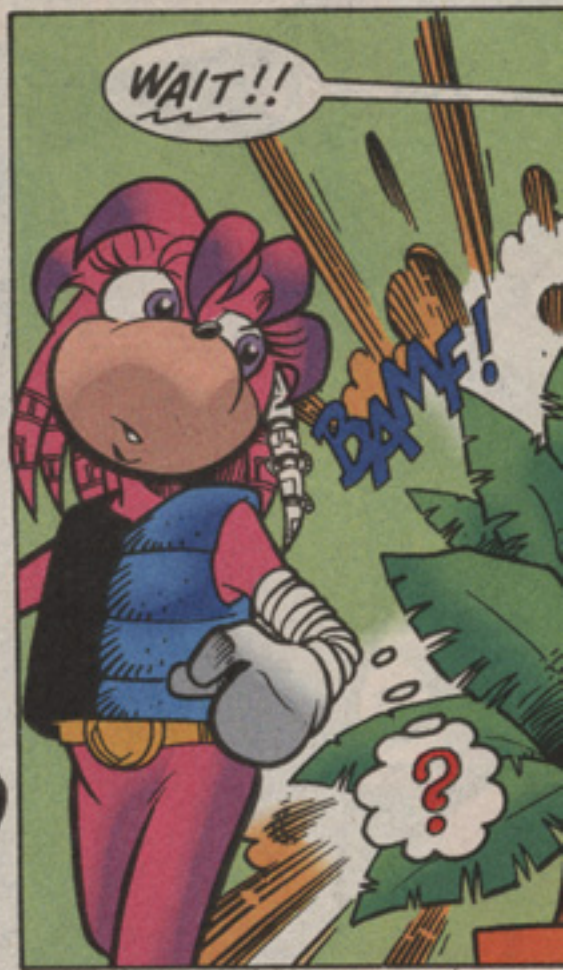
Who Wrote The
BOOK OF LOVE
Anyway?



WOULD YOU
EXCUSE ME,
RAYNOR?

I'LL BE
RIGHT BACK.

BUT, OF
COURSE!



"--HE'S SURE GOING TO HEAR AN *EARFUL* FROM ME!"

I DON'T GET IT, ARCHY!

I'M READY TO BUTT HEADS WITH THE *BADDEST* *HARDCASES* AROUND--

--YET WHEN IT COMES TO ONE SINGLE *GIRL*--

--I TURN TO *JELLO*!

GO *FIGURE*!

YOU *STILL* DON'T UNDERSTAND, DO YOU?

UNLIKE WE *FIRE-ANTS*, YOU *ECHIDNAS* HAVEN'T A *ROMANTIC BONE* IN YOUR BODY!

THAT'S WHY *NATURE* STEPPED IN AND PROVIDED THE *SOULTOUCH* TO HELP YOU ALONG!

YEAH, SO MY *DAD* SAYS!

WONDER IF *HE* HAD IT THIS *BAD* OVER *MOM*?

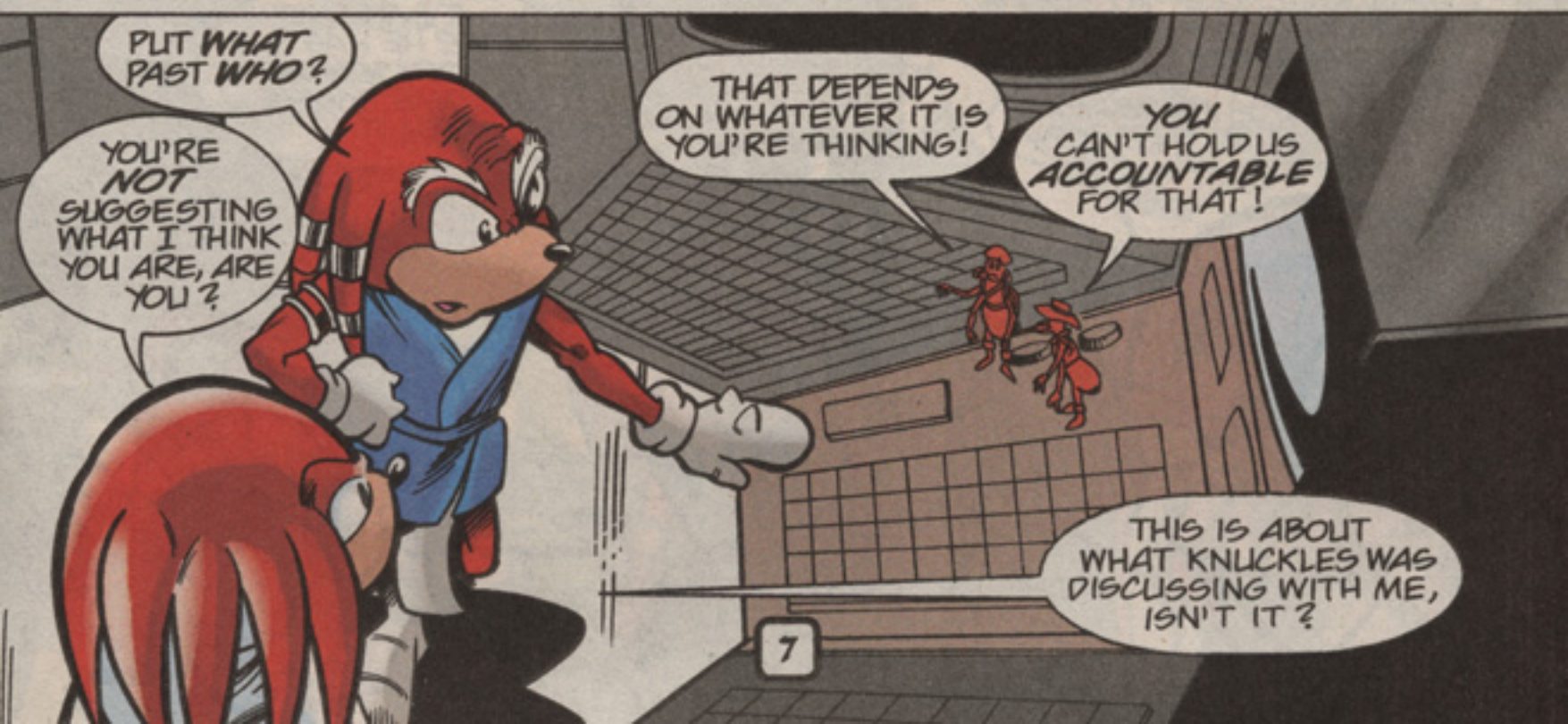
YOU'D BE *SURPRISED*!

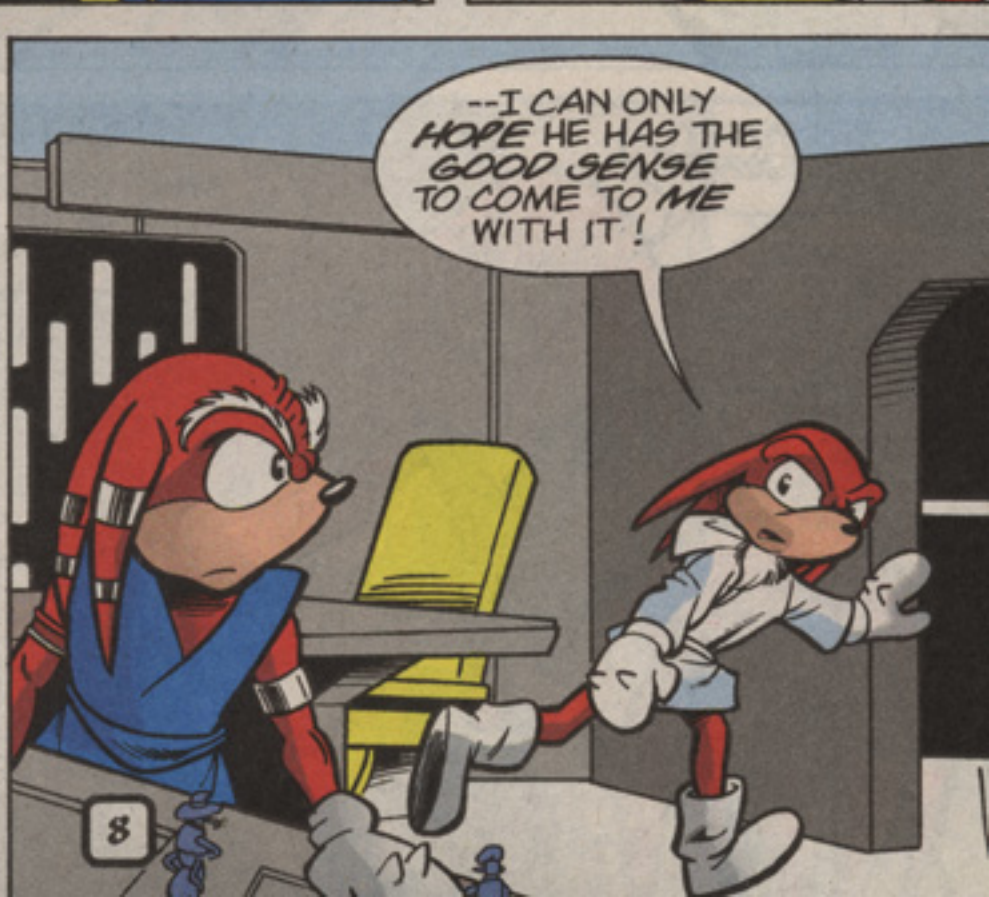
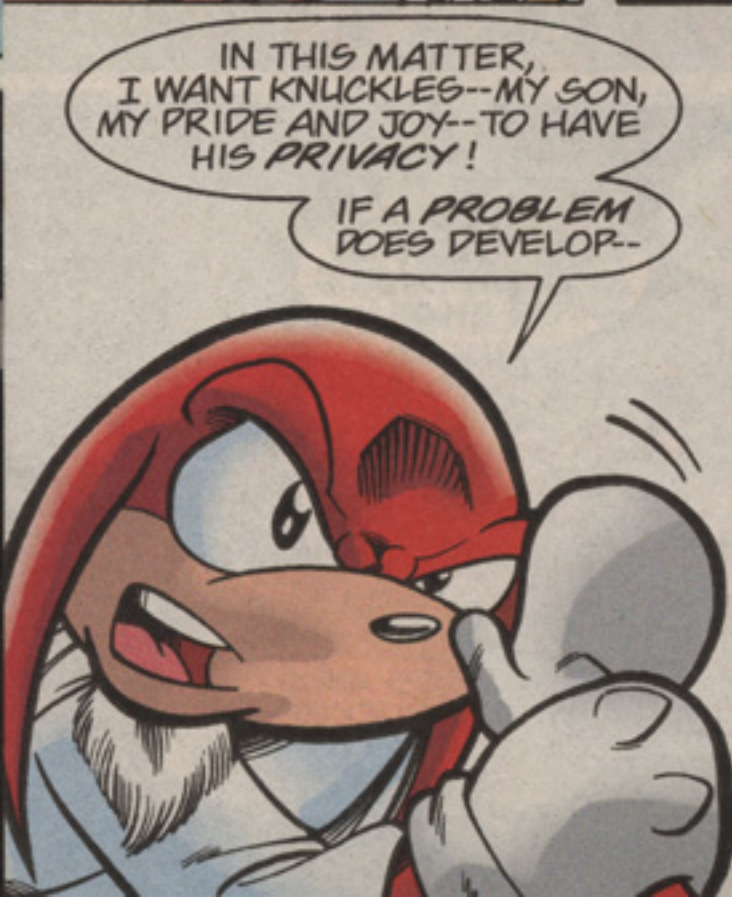
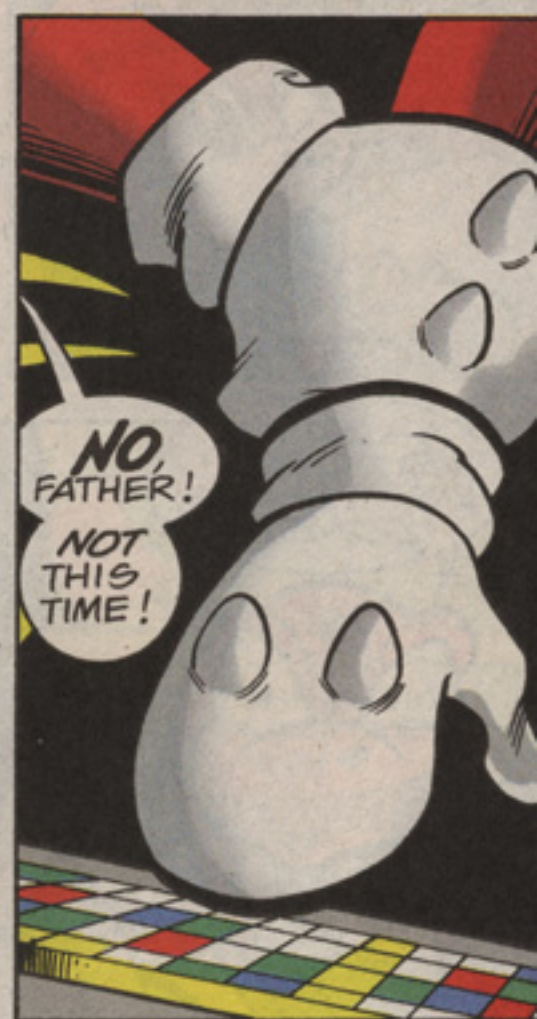
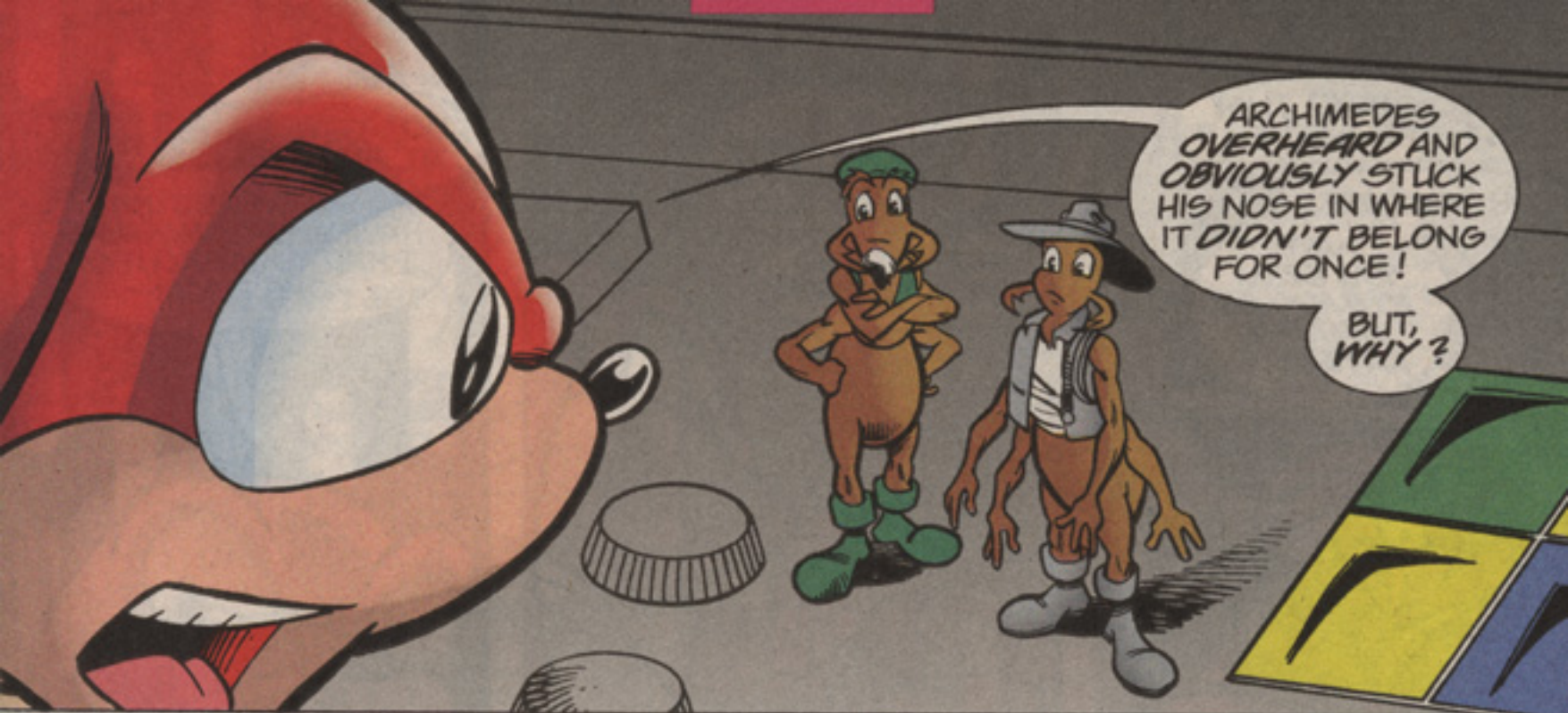
PROBABLY NO MORE SO THAN IF I DISCOVERED ONE OF THE *GUYS* WAS *DATING* SOMEONE!

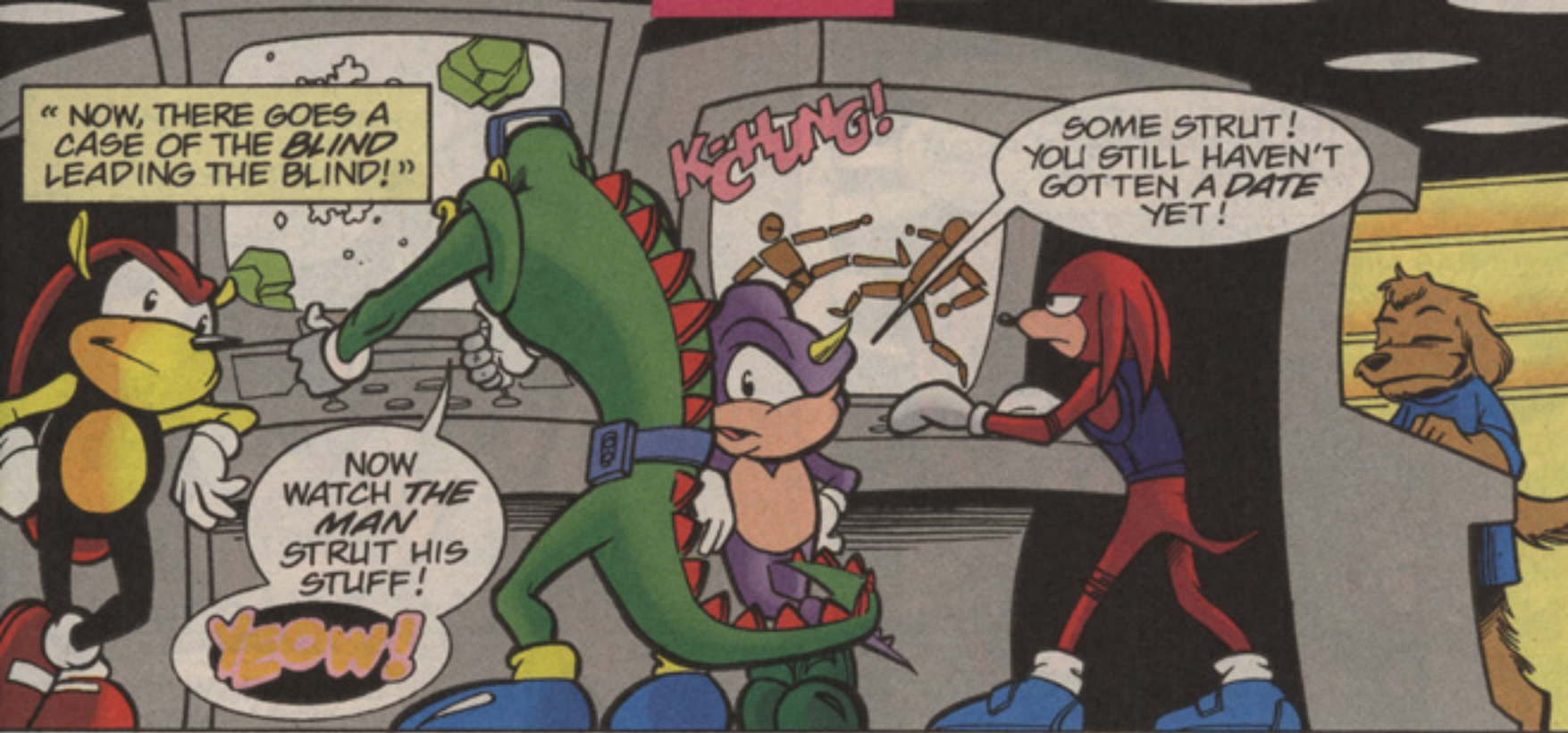
SPEAKING OF WHICH--

VIDEO

GAM







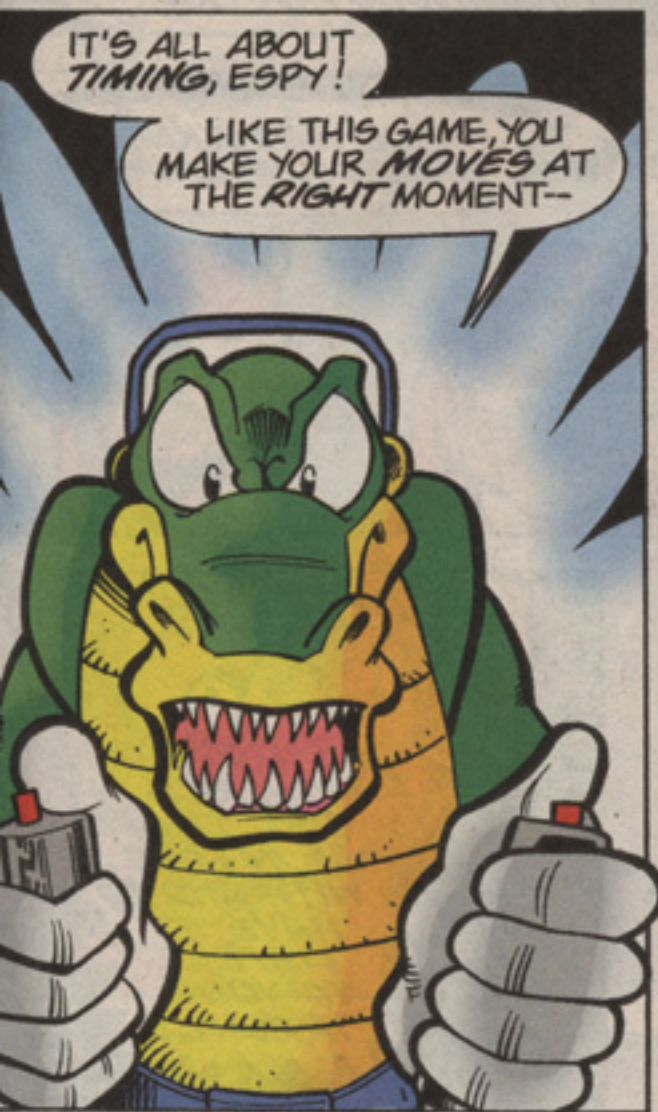
"NOW, THERE GOES A CASE OF THE **BLIND** LEADING THE **BLIND**!"

KCHUNG!

SOME STRUT!
YOU STILL HAVEN'T
GOTTEN A DATE
YET!

NOW
WATCH THE
MAN
STRUT HIS
STUFF!

YEOW!



IT'S ALL ABOUT
TIMING, ESPY!

LIKE THIS GAME, YOU
MAKE YOUR **MOVES** AT
THE **RIGHT** MOMENT--



-- AND YOU
END UP SCORING
BIG-TIME!

CIRCUITS AND
KNOBS ARE ONE
THING, VECTOR--

-- BUT A **GIRL** IS
QUITE ANOTHER!

YEAH!

TELL A **GIRL**
YOU CONSIDER HER
A **PLAYTHING** AND
SEE WHERE THAT
GETS YOU!



LOOK AT **KNUCKLES**,
FOR INSTANCE!

WHAT ABOUT
HIM?





I NEVER SEE HIM TREAT JULIE-SU ANY DIFFERENT FROM THE WAY HE DOES US!

THE HOMEBOY HAS HIS WIRES CROSSED, IF Y'ASK ME!



WHAT DOES HE KNOW?

HE'D BE TRIPPING OVER HIS SNEAKERS IF HE HAD ANY!

YOU'RE BLOWING WIND, VECTOR! KNUCKLES IS NOBODY'S FOOL!

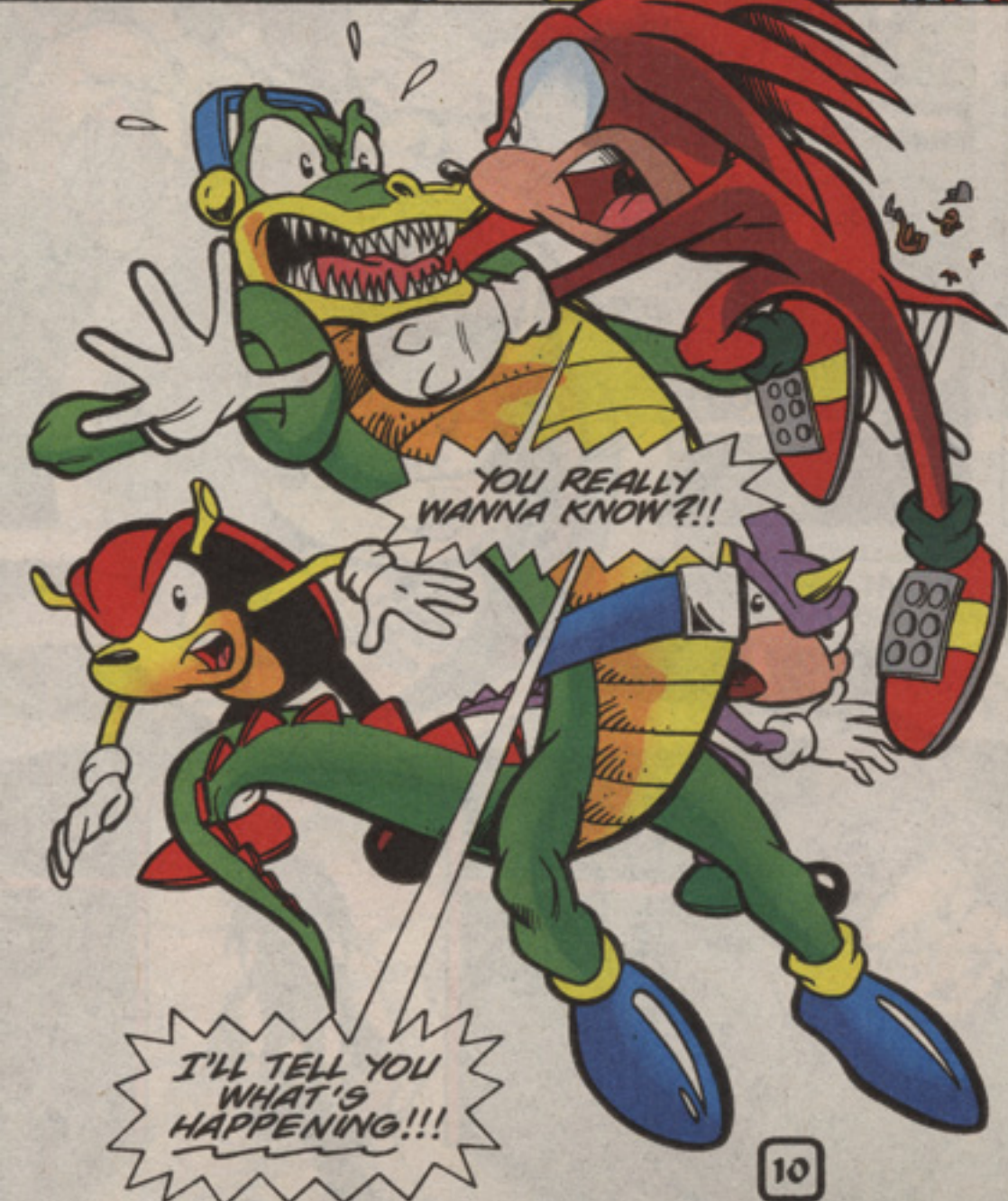


HAH! IF SHE HAD HIM WRAPPED ANY TIGHTER, HE'D SNAP!

YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

SAY, KNUX! WHAT'S HAPPENING?

YOU WANNA KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING?!



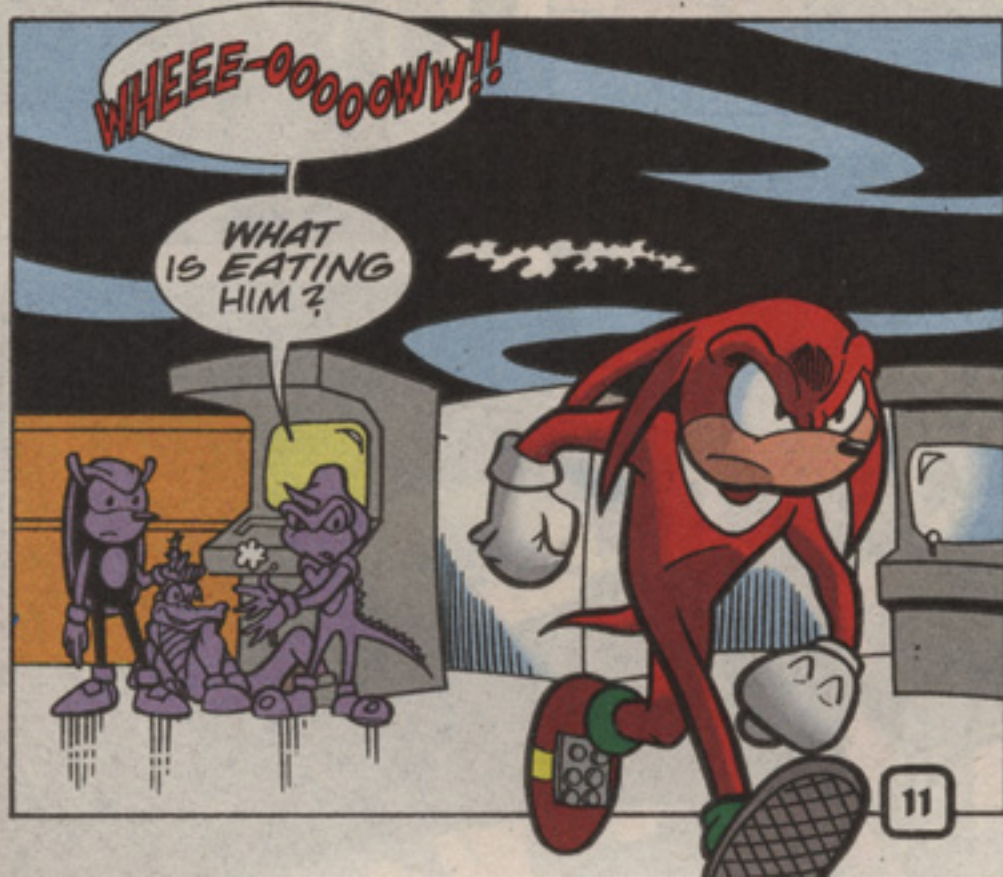
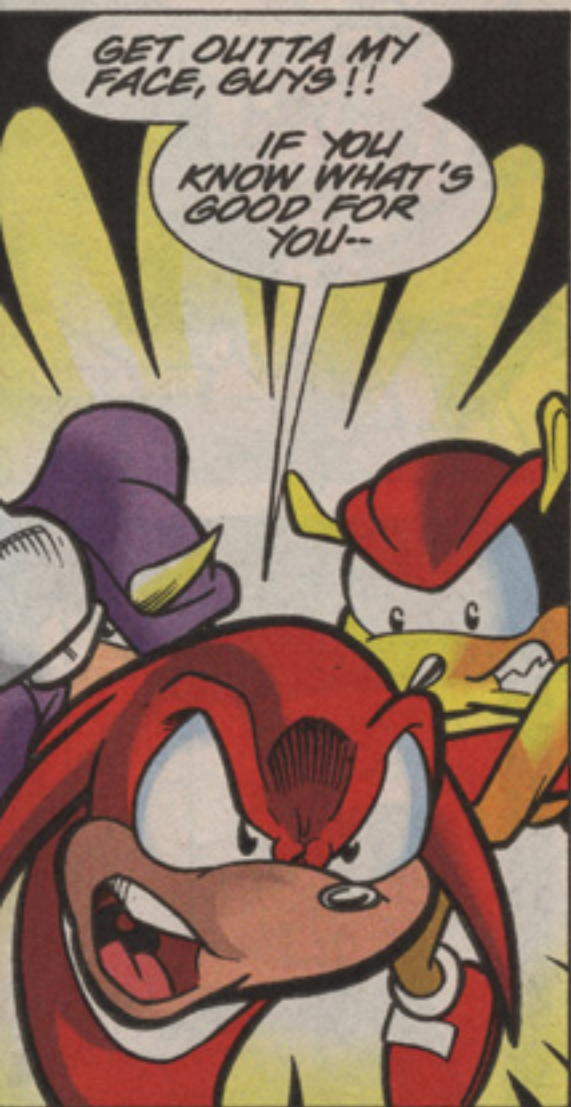
YOU REALLY WANNA KNOW?!!

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!



THERE'S A GIRL I MAY BE IN LOVE WITH AND I HAVE TO LISTEN TO YOUR TRASH!!!

WHY DON'T YOU JUST--GET--OFF--MY--CASE, YOU--CRAZY--CROC!!!



"--THAT BOY IS ONE
LOVESICK PUPPY!"

I HAD
A REALLY
GREAT TIME,
JULIE-SU!

I WOULDN'T
MIND REPEATING THE
EXPERIENCE!

I'D BE LYING IF I SAID I DIDN'T
ENJOY MYSELF OR THAT THE COMPANY
I KEPT WASN'T WONDERFUL!

ANYTHING'S
POSSIBLE!

FAIR ENOUGH!
I'LL LEAVE IT
AT THAT!

GOOD NIGHT,
FAIR DAMSEL!

GOOD NIGHT,
KIND SIR!

...sigh...

"JUST MY LUCK!
THE ONE THAT
WANTS ME
ISN'T THE
ONE I WANT..."

NO TWO WAYS
ABOUT IT!

I REALLY
LOST IT BACK
THERE!

AND IF IT WERE
ANYONE BUT VECTOR,
I MIGHT FEEL INCLINED
TO APOLOGIZE--

--BUT HE
DEFINITELY
HAD THAT
COMING!

IT'S ABOUT TIME
HE GOT OVER IT AND OFF
OF JULIE SU'S CASE!

SAY!

IF I
EVER NEEDED
SOMEONE TO
TALK TO--

--MAYBE GETTING MOM'S
PERSPECTIVE MIGHT NOT BE
SUCH A BAD THING!

I MEAN--
SHE'S A GIRL--
JUST LIKE
JULIE-SU
IS!

EVENING, YOUNG
GUARDIAN!

HERE
TO SEE YOUR
MOTHER?

AH--er--
NO!

JUST
PASSING
BY!

WHO'S KIDDING
WHO?

ALL I'M DOING
IS PUTTING OFF THE
INEVITABLE!

EITHER I
ASK HER--

COMING



SOON!

NABISCO OREO STACKING CONTEST

- 1. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.** Open only to legal residents of the 50 states in the United States and the District of Columbia, who are 12 years of age or younger at the time of entry. Employees of Nabisco Biscuit Company, Nabisco, Inc., The Walt Disney Co., participating retail stores, their respective affiliates, subsidiaries, and agencies, their immediate families, and members of the same household of such employees are not eligible to enter or win.
- 2. ENTRY.** Between May 23, 1999 and August 15, 1999, compete in a "Local Contest" at a participating retail store selling Nabisco Oreo cookies. To compete, go to the specially designated "contest table," complete an official entry form and then build a stack of Oreo cookies under the supervision of the independent judging agency. One entry (that is, one opportunity to compete at a participating retail store) per person. Contestants will have 30 seconds to stack as many Oreo cookies as possible to build a self-standing, single tower. In constructing the tower, cookies must not be broken or tampered with in any way; and, contestants must stack cookies independently, without assistance of any kind. In the sole determination of the independent judging agency, the contestant who stacks the most cookies that remain standing for 3 seconds after the 30-second period ends qualifies as a Semifinalist.
- 3. CONTEST STRUCTURE.** For all levels of the Contest, contestants will participate in two age groups (7 years of age or younger; 8 through 12 years of age). There will be 1 "Local Contest" per participating retail store. In each "Local Contest," 2 contestants will qualify as Semifinalists (1 per age group). For schedule information for "Local Contests," see your local participating retailer, call 1-800-ONLY-OREO or visit our website at WWW.OREO.COM. From all participating retail stores, Semifinalists' names/birthdates (and birth times) and the height of each Semifinalist's stack will be forwarded to another independent judging organization. On or about October 20, 1999, this independent judging organization will rank the Semifinalists, determining the 10 Semifinalists in each age group with the highest stacks; these 20 Semifinalists will qualify as Finalists, and will each receive a Finalist Prize in addition to the Semifinalist Prize. To determine the Grand Prize winners, Finalists will compete in the "National Stacking Finals" on or about November 9, 1999 in Orlando, Florida. In the sole determination of the independent judging agency supervising the "National Stacking Finals," the Finalist in each age group who creates the highest stack in the "National Stacking Finals" will win a Grand Prize (in addition to the Finalist Prize and the Semifinalist Prize).
- 4. PRIZES.** Grand Prize (2, 1 per age group): U.S. Series EE Savings Bond worth \$20,000 at maturity; a 1-year supply of Oreo cookies (52 packages); 3-day/2-night trip for 2 to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, on dates selected by Sponsor between December 1, 1999 and March 1, 2000 to appear in a walk-on role on Disney's "Honey, I Shrunk The Kids: The TV Show." Trip consists of roundtrip coach air transportation between major commercial airport nearest winner's residence and Calgary; ground transfers between Calgary airport and hotel; 2 nights' standard hotel accommodations (double occupancy). Approximate Retail Value—\$14,100 each. Finalist Prize (20, 10 per age group): 3-day/2-night trip for 2 to Orlando, Florida (November 6, 1999 to November 9, 1999), where winner will participate in the "National Stacking Finals." Trip consists of roundtrip coach air transportation between major commercial airport nearest winner's residence and Orlando; ground transfers between Orlando airport and hotel; 2 nights' standard hotel accommodations (double occupancy); 2 DisneyQuest passes for 2 days, 2 Walt Disney World 5-day hopper passports, and \$300 spending money. Approximate Retail Value—\$2,522 each. Semifinalist Prize (approximately 30,000, but actual number is determined by number of participating retail stores; 1 winner per age group per store): Oreo Stacking Game. Approximate Retail Value—\$6.95 each. For Grand/Finalist Prizes: (a) winner must be accompanied by parent/legal guardian on all prize travel; (b) winner and parent/legal guardian must travel together; (c) all unspecified expenses are winner's sole responsibility; (d) prize trip must be taken on indicated dates. For Grand Prize, if winner is unavailable on stated dates, prize will be forfeited; for Finalist Prize, if winner is unavailable on stated dates, prize will be forfeited, with an alternate Finalist selected. For Grand Prize, winner is solely responsible for obtaining any necessary travel documents; and, walk-on role is subject to availability and other restrictions. No prize transfer. No prize substitution or cash equivalent of prize except at sole discretion of Sponsor due to prize unavailability for any reason, and only then for prize of comparable value. Prizes may be awarded to parent/legal guardian on winner's behalf. All taxes on prizes are the sole responsibility of winners.
- 5. CONDITIONS.** Void where prohibited by law. Subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. All entries submitted become the sole property of Sponsor and will not be returned. Sponsor and its agencies are not responsible for incomplete, illegible, lost, misdirected, damaged, destroyed, delayed or late entries. Sponsor and its agencies are not responsible for submissions from participating retail stores that are late, lost, misdirected, damaged, destroyed, delayed, postage due, or contain errors. In the event of ties in determining Semifinalists/Finalists, the winner will be the youngest contestant as determined by time and date of birth. In the event of ties in the "National Stacking Finals," additional rounds of the stacking competition will be conducted until one winner is determined for each age group. Semifinalist winners will be announced at the conclusion of each "Local Contest," but no later than August 15, 1999. Semifinalist winners will be notified (with prizes awarded) at the retail store; if not present, winner will be notified by phone and must return to the store at a later time to collect the prize. Winners of Finalist Prizes will be notified by mail or phone no later than October 26, 1999. Grand Prize winners will be announced at the "National Stacking Finals" and will receive confirmation by mail. For Grand and Finalist Prizes, parents/legal guardians of winners will be required to execute before a Notary Public an affidavit of eligibility, liability release and a publicity release (where legal) on the winner's behalf, to be returned within 10 days of notification. Guests of Grand and Finalist Prize winners must execute and return a liability release and a publicity release (where legal), prior to issuance of travel documents. For Grand Prize, noncompliance with these requirements may result in prize forfeiture; for Finalist Prize, noncompliance may result in prize forfeiture, with an alternate Finalist selected. By participating, contestants agree to abide by these official rules and the decisions of all judges, which are final and binding in all respects. Sponsor is not responsible for misprints in promotional materials or errors in local stacking events. Sponsor reserves the right to cancel local stacking events or disqualify contestants in the event of noncompliance with these official rules. Where legal, acceptance of prize(s) constitutes permission of winner's parent/legal guardian to use winner's name, likeness and biographical information for advertising/publicity purposes, and any and all rights to said use, without further compensation. Parent/legal guardian of contestant agrees that Nabisco Biscuit Company, Nabisco, Inc., The Walt Disney Co., participating retail stores, and their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, and their respective employees, officers, directors and agencies will have no liability whatsoever for any injuries, losses or damages of any kind caused by contestant's participation in the contest, or resulting from contestant's acceptance, possession, use/misuse of prize(s).
- 6. WINNERS LIST.** For a list of major prize winners, send a self-addressed stamped envelope before November 10, 1999 to: Attn: Oreo Stacking Winner's List, Innova Marketing, 9401 73rd Avenue N. # 400, Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

Sponsored by Nabisco Biscuit Company, 100 DeForest Avenue, East Hanover, NJ 07936-1911



--OR I GO
NUTS!

STRANGE!

I WOULD SWEAR
THAT LOOKS LIKE
KNUCKLES!

A GEMSTONE
FOR YOUR THOUGHTS,
DARLING!

WYN!

I'M SORRY!
I WAS JUST
THINKING!



A
BLIND MAN
COULD SEE THAT,
DARLING!

ANYTHING
SPECIFIC ON
YOUR MIND?

I WAS
MAINLY
THINKING ABOUT
KNUCKLES!



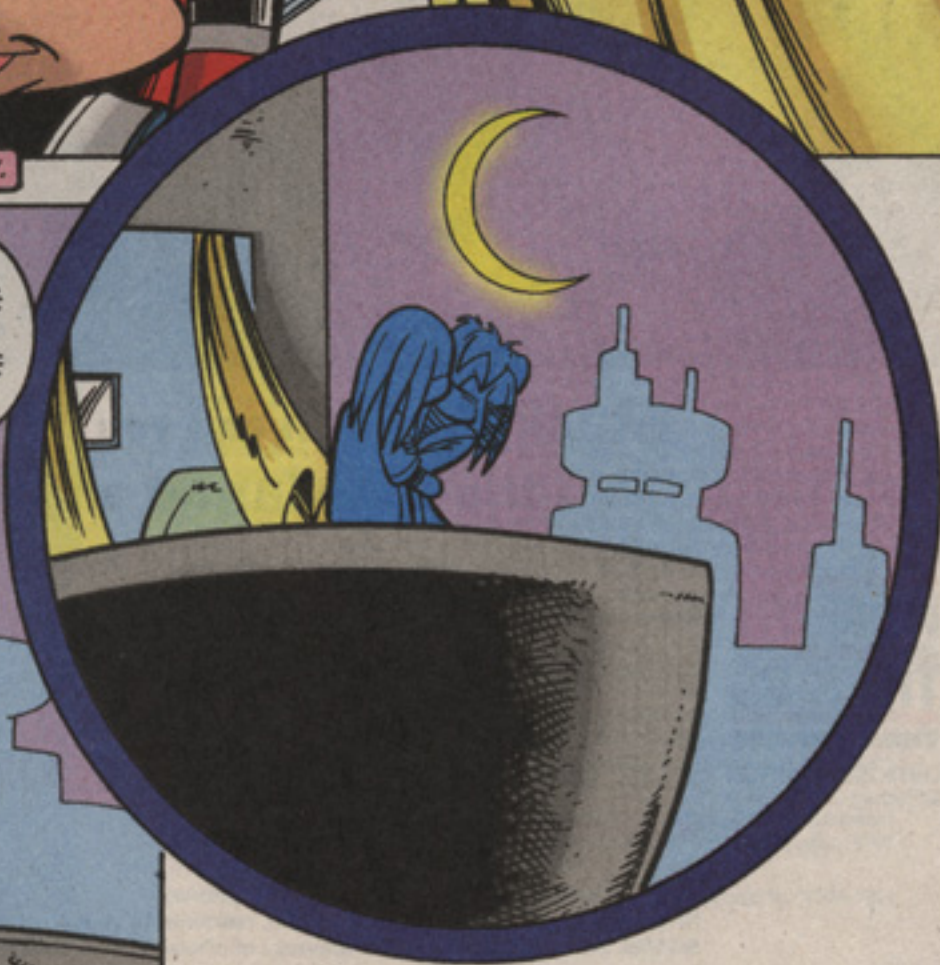
HE HASN'T SAID MUCH SINCE WE
ANNOUNCED OUR INTENTION
TO BE MARRIED!*

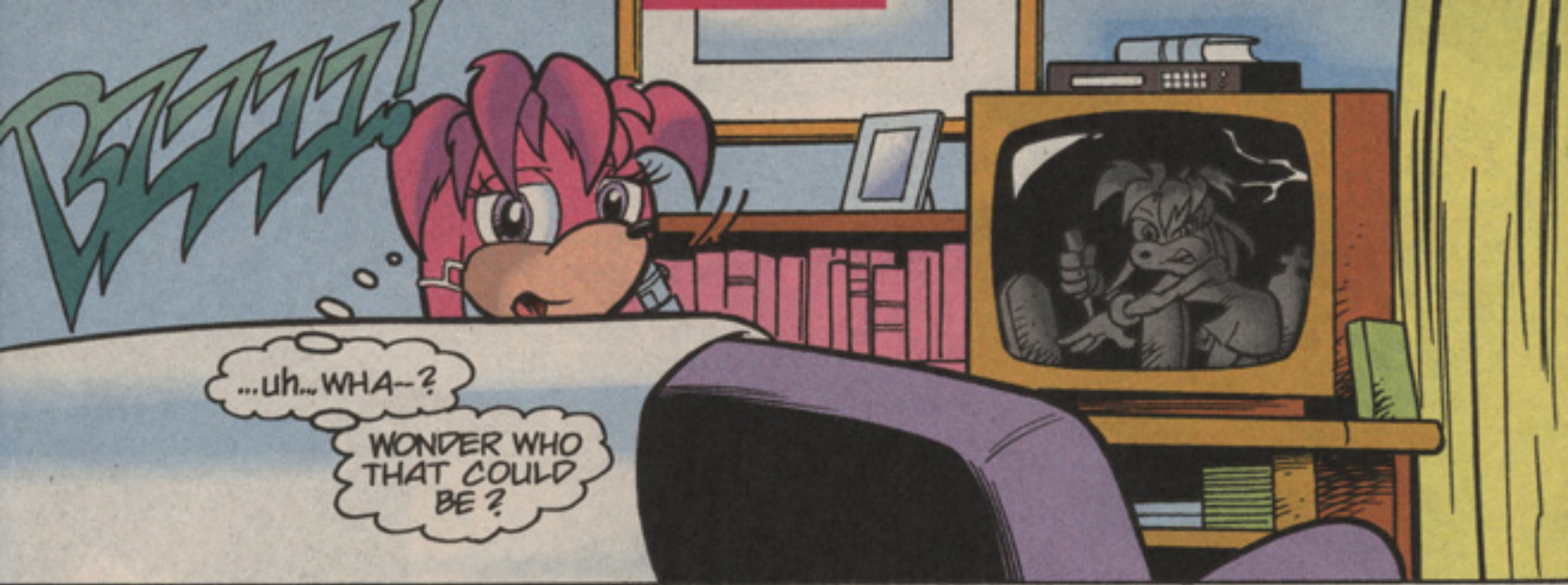
I KEEP WONDERING
IF MAYBE WE'RE MOVING
FASTER THAN
HE CAN HANDLE AT
THIS TIME!

* /ISSUE #16-- SOCIETY PAGE EDITOR JUSTIN.

NOBODY HAS SET
A DATE, DEAR LARA!
I'M PERFECTLY HAPPY
TO WAIT AS LONG AS
NECESSARY!

WE'LL
STILL HAVE
EACH
OTHER IN THE
MEANTIME!





...uh... WHA--?

WONDER WHO THAT COULD BE?



YES?

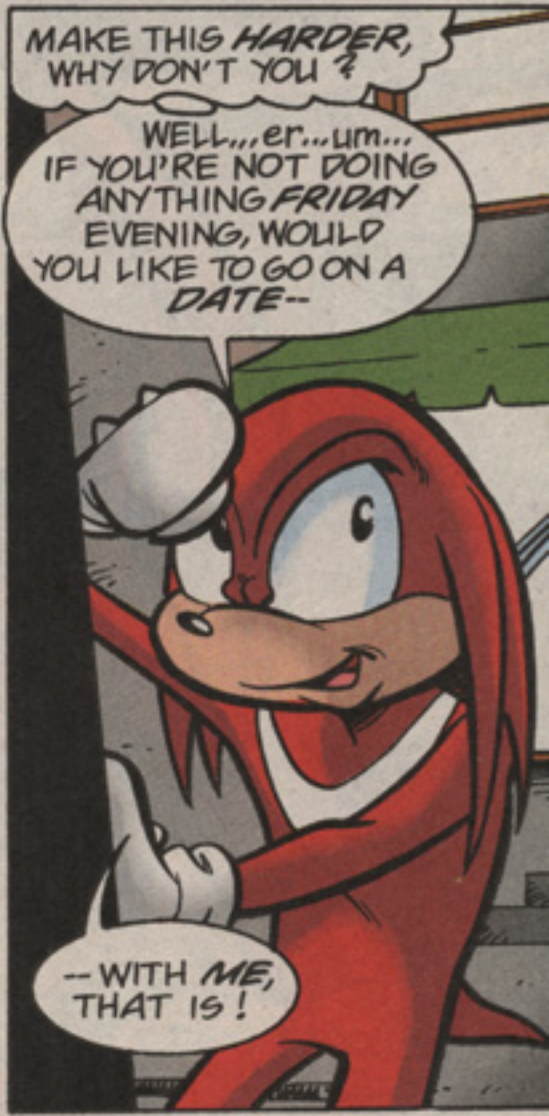
I WAS WONDERING IF THE LADY OF THE HOUSE IS DOING ANYTHING THIS WEEKEND!



SHE MAY--OR SHE MAY NOT BE! THAT ALL DEPENDS!

DEPENDS ON WHAT?

DEPENDS ON WHATEVER YOU WISH TO ASK!



MAKE THIS HARDER, WHY DON'T YOU?

WELL,,,er...um... IF YOU'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING FRIDAY EVENING, WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO ON A DATE--

--WITH ME, THAT IS!



UH, ANYTHING SPECIAL YOU HAVE IN MIND?

I HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT, YET!

I JUST THOUGHT I'D ASK YOU AND GO FROM THERE!

OKAY, THEN! FRIDAY NIGHT'S A DATE!



YESSSSSSSS!

I'LL BE HERE AT SIX!

GREAT! I'LL SEE YOU THEN!

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

**SHE SAID
YES!**

NOW WHAT DO I DO?
WHERE DO I TAKE HER? WHAT
DOES SHE LIKE TO DO?

THIS IS CRAZY!
I JUST ASKED SOMEONE TO
GO OUT WITH ME AND I HAVEN'T
A CLUE HOW TO ACT!

MAYBE THIS
WAS A BAD
IDEA!

HE SAID
YES!

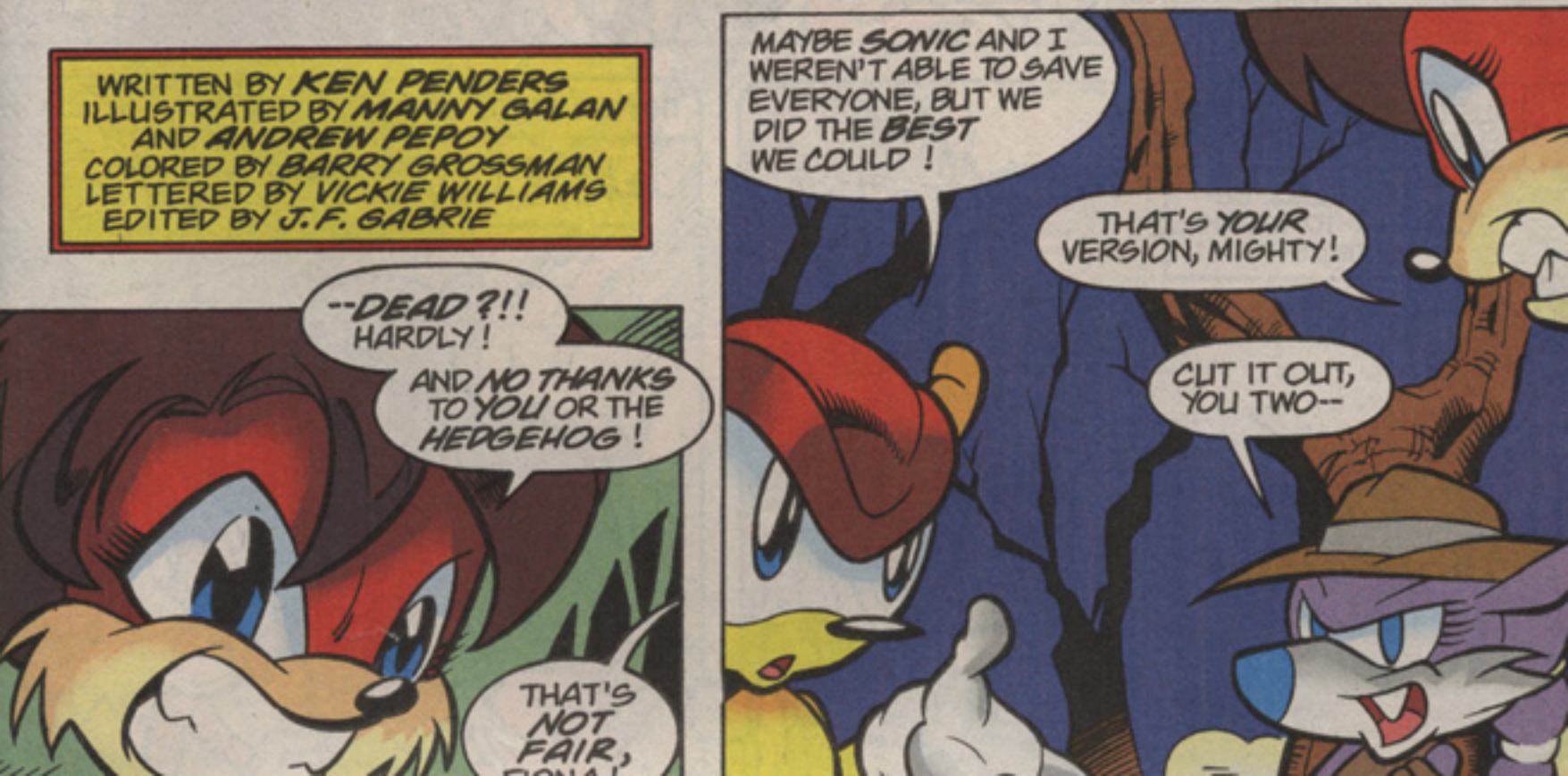
FINALLY!

WHATEVER HAPPENS,
HAPPENS! AS LONG AS
WE'RE TOGETHER!

It's **CRUNCH TIME**,
gang, but will our
boy come through
in the clinch?
We'll find out
NEXT ISSUE!!



WRITTEN BY **KEN PENDERS**
ILLUSTRATED BY **MANNY GALAN**
AND **ANDREW PEPOY**
COLORED BY **BARRY GROSSMAN**
LETTERED BY **VICKIE WILLIAMS**
EDITED BY **J. F. GABRIE**



--DEAD?!!
HARDLY!

AND NO THANKS
TO YOU OR THE
HEDGEHOG!

THAT'S
NOT
FAIR,
FIONA!

MAYBE SONIC AND I
WEREN'T ABLE TO SAVE
EVERYONE, BUT WE
DID THE BEST
WE COULD!

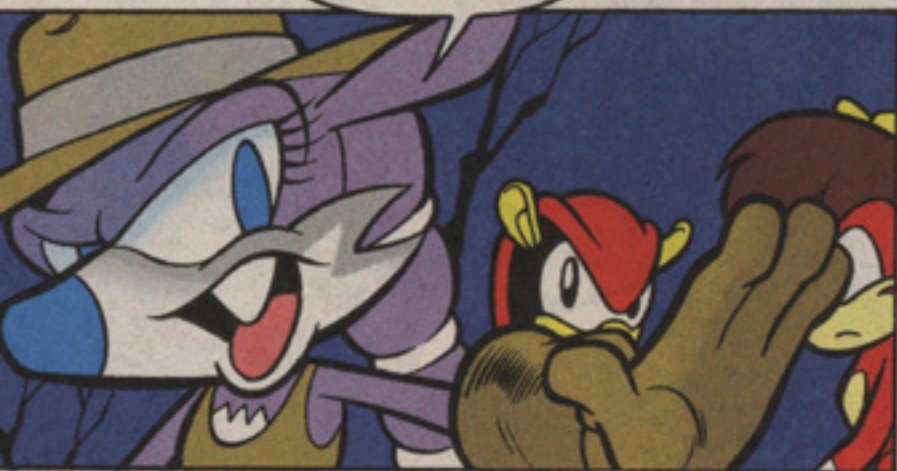
THAT'S YOUR
VERSION, MIGHTY!

CUT IT OUT,
YOU TWO--

--YOU WANT TO
HASH *DIFFERENCES*,
DO IT ON YOUR OWN
TIME!

C'MON!

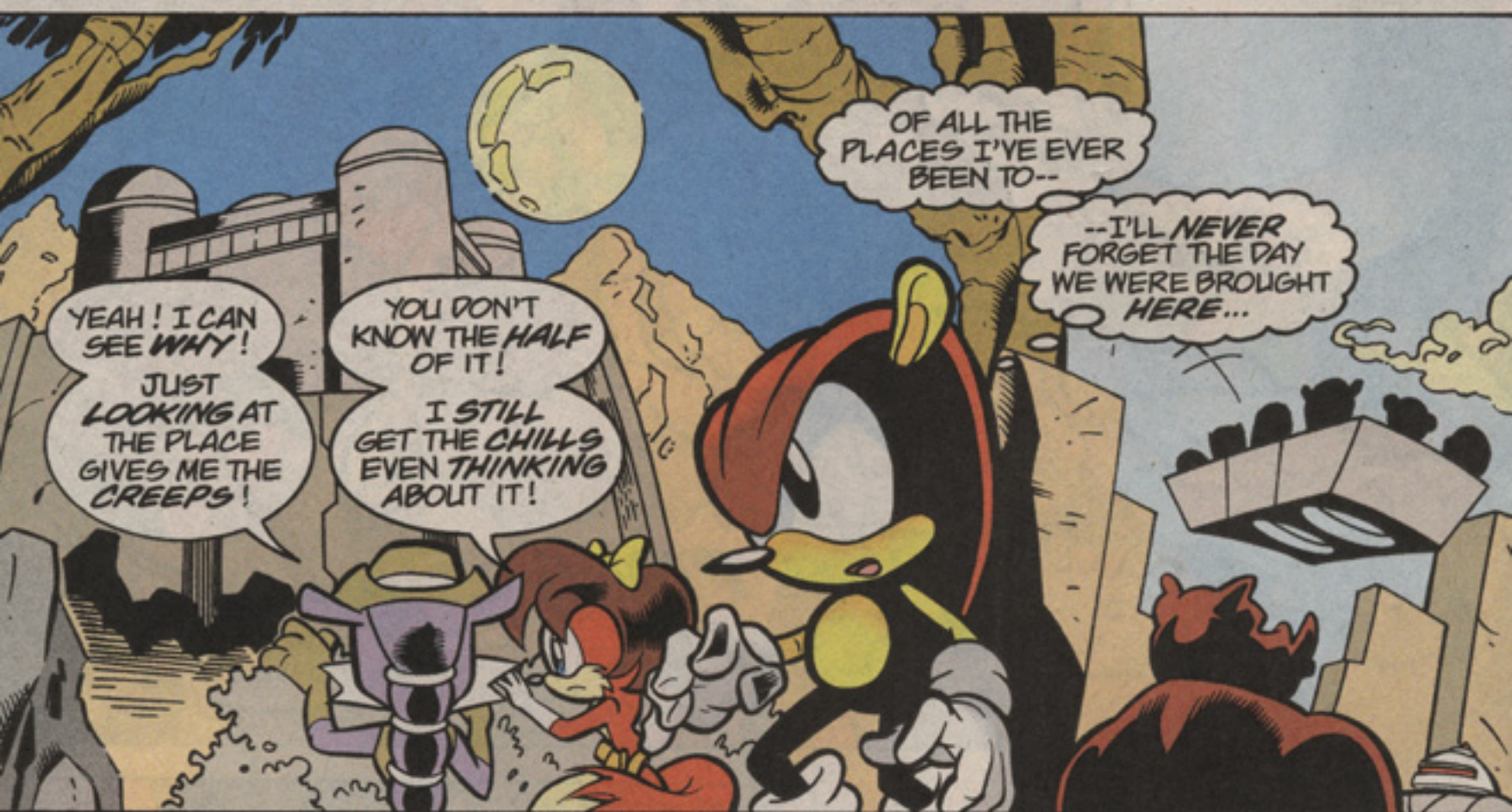
WE'VE A LOT
TO DO, AND NOT
MUCH TIME TO DO
IT IN!



WHERE'S YOUR HEAD AT, FIONA?
YOU KNOW WE NEED MIGHTY IF
WE'RE TO FIND THE BOX!

I'M
SORRY,
NIC!

I JUST GOT
EDGY WAITING
AROUND FOR YOU
GUYS!



OF ALL THE
PLACES I'VE EVER
BEEN TO--

--I'LL NEVER
FORGET THE DAY
WE WERE BROUGHT
HERE...

YEAH! I CAN
SEE WHY!
JUST
LOOKING AT
THE PLACE
GIVES ME THE
CREEPS!

YOU DON'T
KNOW THE HALF
OF IT!

I STILL
GET THE CHILLS
EVEN THINKING
ABOUT IT!



WE DO NOT TOLERATE
SLACKERS OF ANY KIND!

YOU WILL BE
PUT TO WORK
IMMEDIATELY!

NOT SO FAST!

WE HAVE OTHER
PLANS FOR YOU!

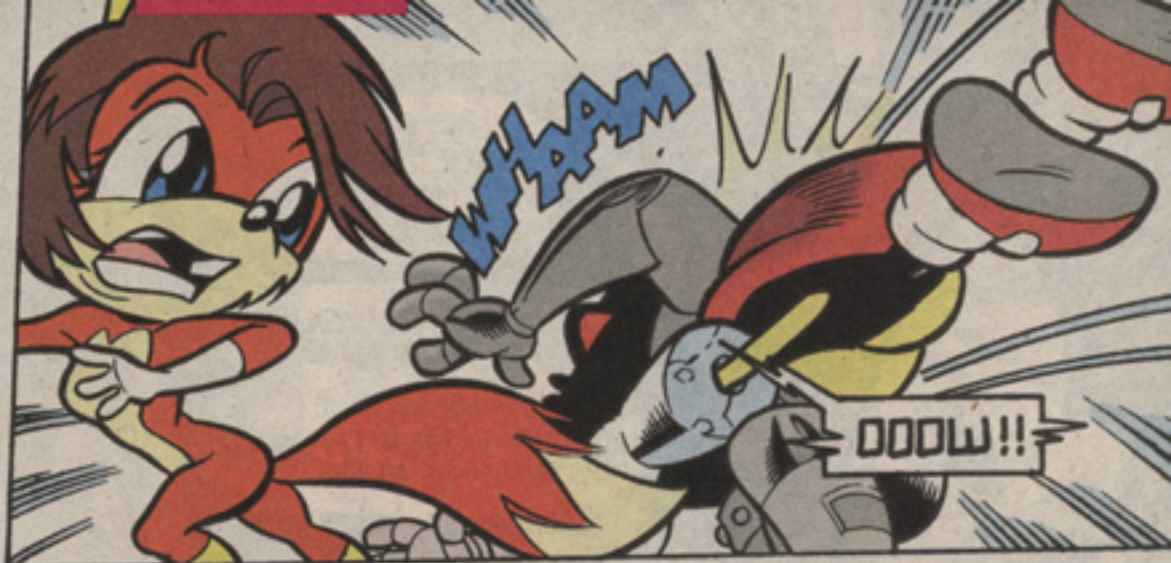
NO! NO!!
LET ME
GO!!



"WITHOUT THINKING,
I LUNGED AT THE
YARD GUARD..."

YOU HEARD
THE LADY, BUB!

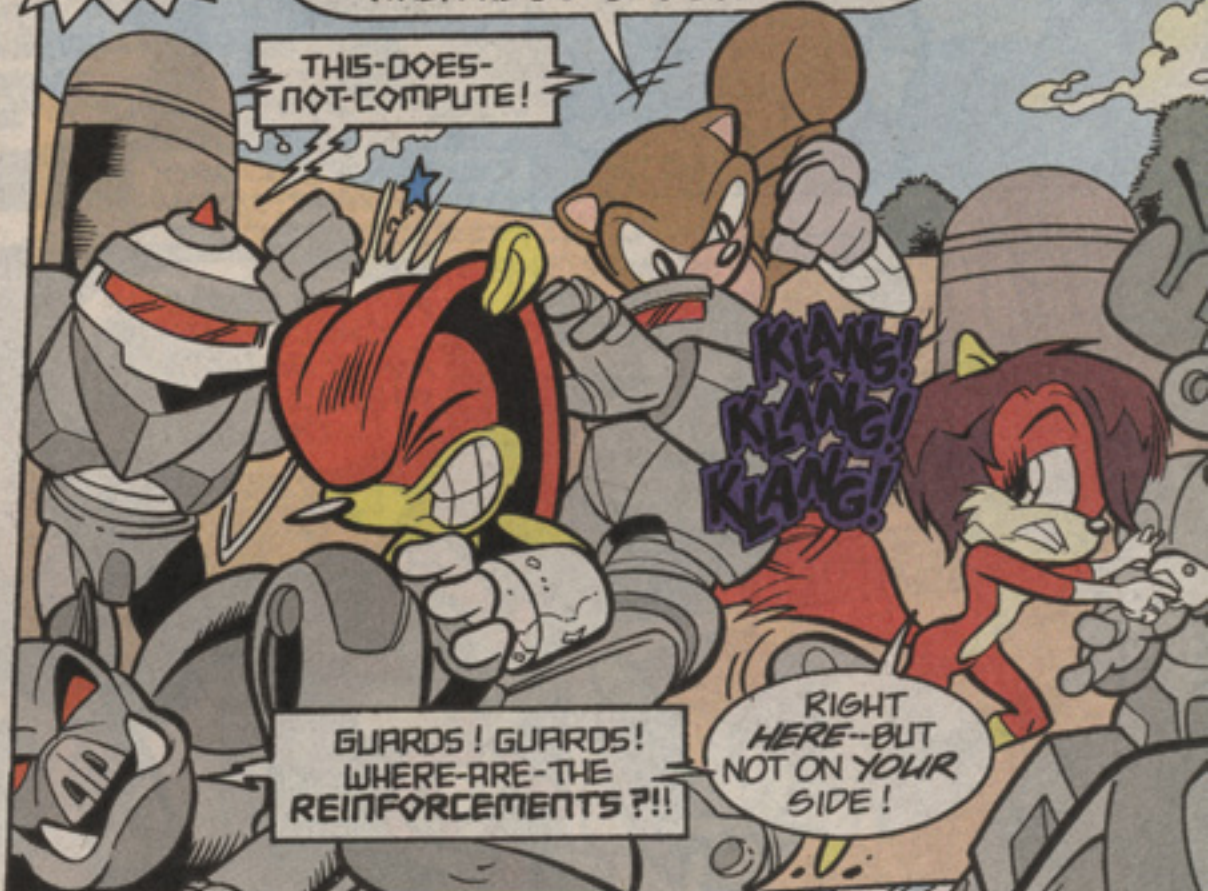
LEAVE HER
ALONE!



HEY!!

N-N-NO FAIR KICKING AN ARMADILLO
WHEN HE'S D-D-DOWN!

THIS-DOES-
NOT-COMPUTE!



GUARDS! GUARDS!
WHERE-ARE-THE
REINFORCEMENTS?!!

RIGHT
HERE--BUT
NOT ON YOUR
SIDE!

"IN ANY EVENT, WE NEVER STOOD A
CHANCE--NOT AT THAT MOMENT..."

DROP-YOUR-WEAPON!

YOU-WILL-ALL-NOW
CEASE-AND-DESIST--

--OR-ELSE-RISK-
OBLITERATION!



AS-FOR-YOU--

--YOU'RE-STILL-WANTED-
BY-THE-DOCTOR!

"ALL WE COULD DO IS
HELPLESSLY WATCH--"



--AFTER WHICH
THEY THREW RAY
AND ME INTO THE
COOLER! *

HEY, MIGHTY! QUIT
DAYDREAMING!

WE WON'T
ACCOMPLISH A THING BY
STAYING HERE!

*SLANG FOR SOLITARY
CONFINEMENT--JUSTIN.



I STILL
THINK NOTHING IS
WORTH RETURNING
HERE FOR!

CAN'T SAY
I BLAME MIGHTY,
NIC!

I'M
HAVING SECOND
THOUGHTS
MYSELF!



IT'S **SPOOKY** HOW EVERYTHING
IS STILL STANDING--LIKE
NOTHING EVER HAPPENED!

THERE'S THE
COOLER, AND THE
PRISONER BARRACKS
BEYOND THAT!

YOU GUYS CAN
CHECK OUT THE
MAIN BUILDING
WHILE I SIT THIS
ONE OUT!



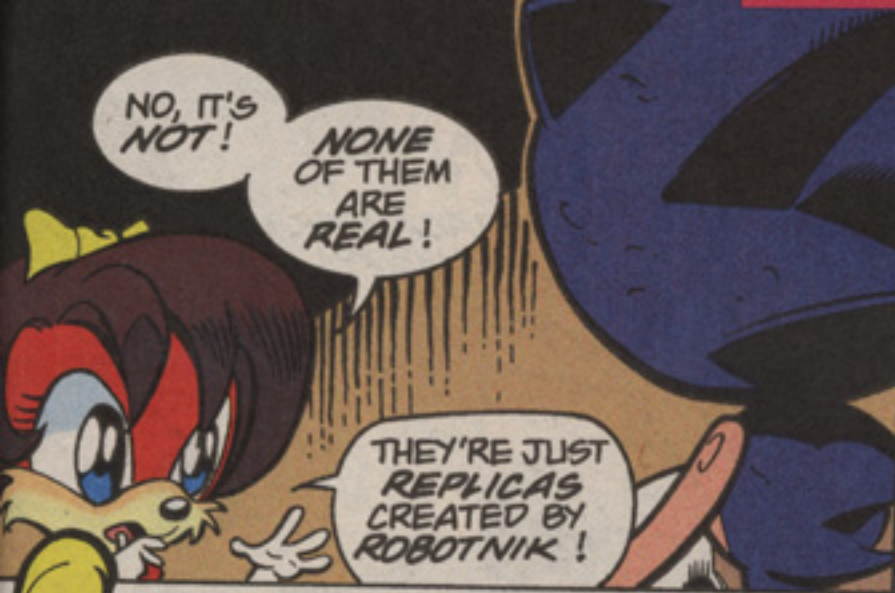
FORGET IT, FIONA!
YOU'RE EITHER **WITH**
US ALL THE WAY OR
NOT AT ALL!

BESIDES,
THERE'S NO
ONE BUT US
HERE!



OH, YEAH?
LOOKS LIKE A
FAMILY
REUNION TO
ME!

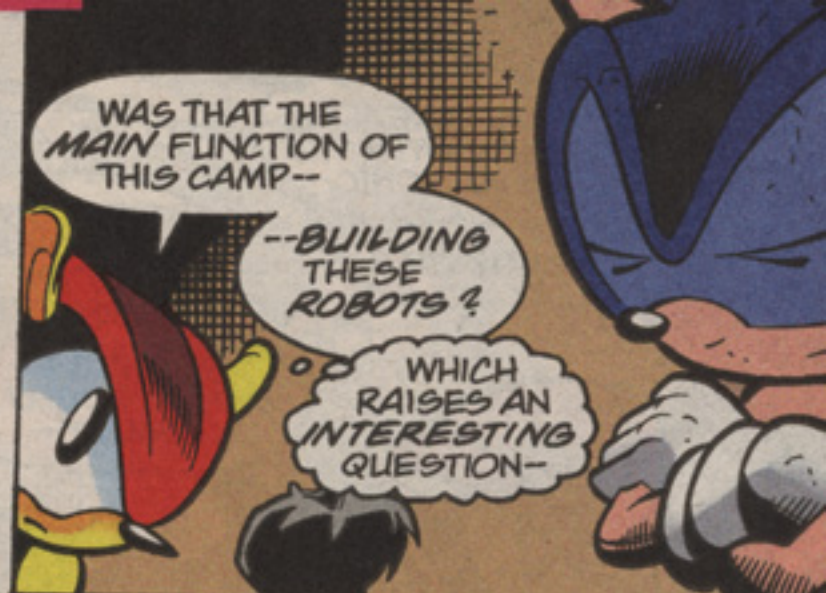
LOOK!
THERE'S
SONIC!



NO, IT'S NOT!

NONE OF THEM ARE REAL!

THEY'RE JUST REPLICAS CREATED BY ROBOTNIK!



WAS THAT THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THIS CAMP--

--BUILDING THESE ROBOTS?

WHICH RAISES AN INTERESTING QUESTION--



"WHILE SITTING ALL ALONE ON THE FLOOR OF MY CELL, I SAW THE BEATEN LIKENESS OF..."

SONIC!

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?!!



NEVER MIND!

...puff... puff...

HERE!

INSERT THAT CARD INTO THE SLOT ON YOUR SHACKLES--



NOW YOU STAND BACK--

--AND SEE WHY THEY CALL ME MIGHTY!

WHOA!

REMIND ME TO NEVER TICK YOU OFF!



--AND THAT OUGHTTA DO THE TRICK!

K-KLIK



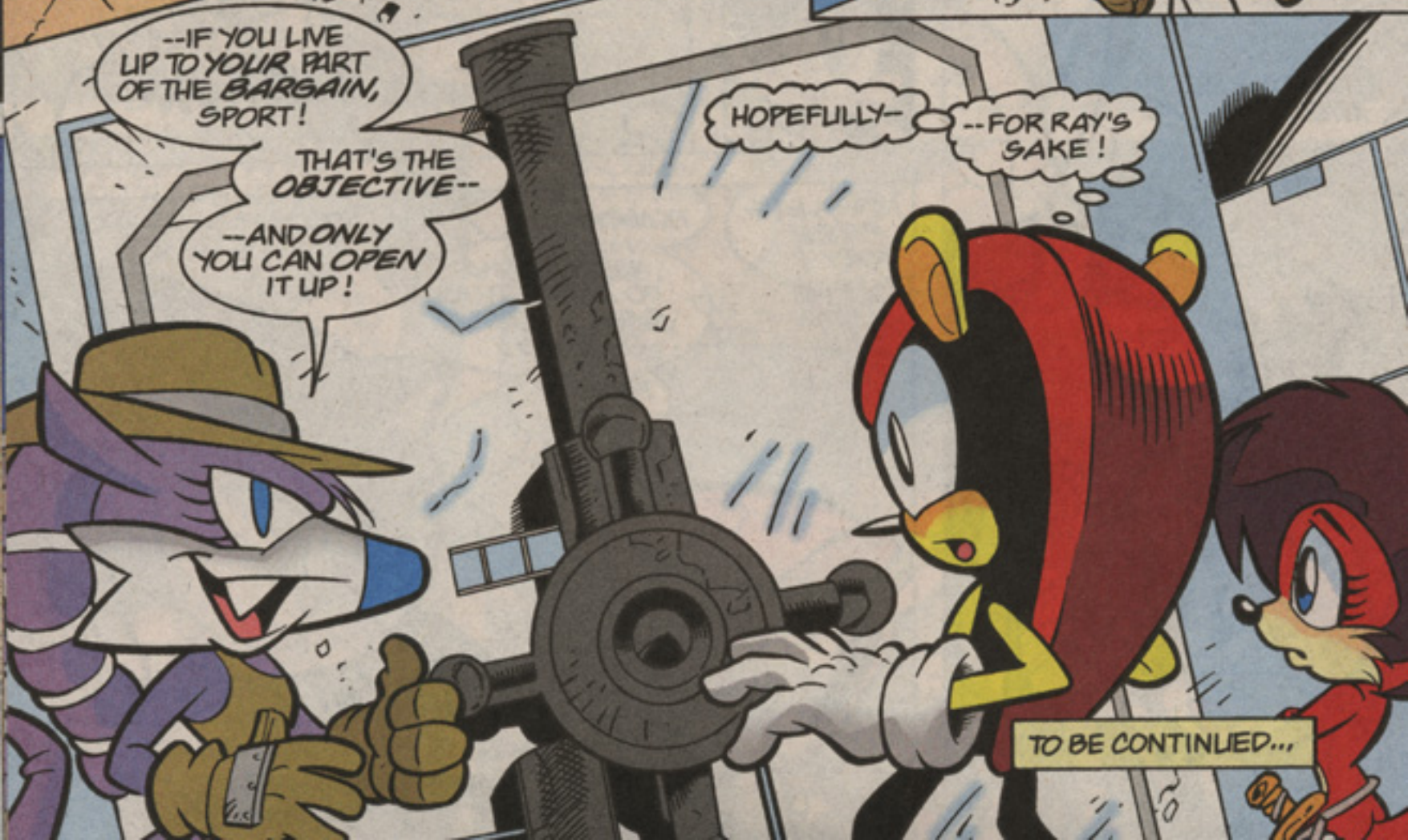
NOW, LET'S FREE RAY!

IXNAY!

WE'RE GONNA DO MORE THAN SAVE A COUPLE OF BUDS!

FOLLOW ME!

"LOOKING AT THIS INANIMATE ROBOT--"



FISTFUL

OF



OFF PANEL

by Gallagher, Manak & Amash

THIS JUST IN!

Hello, Knux fans! Hope you're enjoying The First Date starring Knuckles and Julie-Su in this three-part romantic comedy. Please write in and tell us what you think about it.

As mentioned in a previous column, there is a new Sonic & Knuckles strip that is currently seeing print in Comic Shop News (CSN), a free weekly fanzine. For those of you who cannot find CSN, don't fret -- we will be reprinting those stories in the pages of a future SONIC SUPER SPECIAL! More on this later.

On another note, the following comments on Prince Elias Acorn (a character that was first introduced in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #19-21: The Forbidden Zone) is reprinted from an edition of This Just In printed in SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #73:

Re: The age of young Prince Elias Acorn. There has been much discussion on the Sonic internet chat-room concerning an answer to a letter about his age. It was stated that the Prince was five years old when he disappeared. Their opinion was that it wasn't possible since the artwork clearly showed him to be a toddler. They were right. It was an incorrect assumption. Elias should be about two years of age when these events took place. Thanks to all who voiced their opinion, for it helped set the record straight.

J.F. GABRIE
Editor / Art Director

Catch you on the flip side!

Send letters to:

FISTFUL OF LETTERS #27

C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.

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Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. Thanks for understanding!

It's that time again, fans. Letters time! The following three letters are just a sampling of your opinions on whether Knuckles should be with Sally or Julie-Su....

Dear Knuckles,

In issue #23, you asked if anyone else agreed with Andra Sunderlin... well, I'm not one. I think you and Julie-Su were destined to meet. How can she say she's not right for you? You both like action, you both are sexy, witty, and tough. I really think Julie-Su knows how you feel about her cause she gets shy when she mentions you.

Wishing you luck.

Cara B.

Allan, Sask.

Canada

Dear J.F.G.

I'm writing this letter regarding Andra Sunderlin's letter in Knuckles: Dark Alliance Part 2 (issue #23). I must say that I strongly disagree with her matchmaking: Knuckles with Sally! I think Knuckles would be better off with Julie-Su. Leave Princess Sally with Sonic. I think it's obvious that they're in love.

Andy Yuan

Playquan@aol.com

Dear Knuckles,

I don't agree with Andra Sunderlin! Some matchmaker! You and Sally just aren't an item. You two have nothing in common! Sally relies on Nicole and her little laser thing to save her. Sally is completely helpless! Julie-Su can fight for

herself, plus she and you are my favorite characters.

Your pal,

Brianna McAuley

Cumberland House

Canada

Thanks to all who wrote in expressing their views on the subject. For those of you who want to jump on board and take sides, write in.

Re: KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #23:

Dear Knuckles,

Out of all the characters in Archie Comics, you're my favorite. I just got done with KNUCKLES #23. I wonder how Knuckles is going to get rid of the Dark Legion this time. I have a few questions: 1) In one of the back-up stories in SONIC #34-36, Knuckles had a line-up of the Brotherhood that didn't have Sabre in it. Why? 2) I don't have KNUCKLES #2 but I have #1 and #3. Are you going to get individual comics on the checklist? Until next time, your #1 fan...

David

Die1117@aol.com

What's up, David? The stories printed in SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #34-36 were from Knuckles' point-of-view. At that time, Knuckles didn't have a clear idea what each of his ancestors looked like so he imagined them the way he did.

To the great story writers at Archie Comics,

Great plot developments in #23! Since Dimitri seems to have

already put a few loose ends out of his mind, I'm looking forward to Locke and Spectre kicking some butt real soon. I have a few questions: 1) Where did Xenin come from? 2) Why is Dimitri still so evil? 3) Why didn't the Brotherhood improve their security after Moritori Rex's identity was revealed? 4) What enables the members of the Brotherhood to live so long? and 5) Why doesn't Knuckles ever wear Hawking's hat?

Nanaki

nanaki@psxrocks.com

Answers to your questions: 1) Xenin is one of the Dark Legion's most technologically advanced soldiers. This is just the first time we've seen him without his Legionnaire robe. 2) If you ask Dimitri, he will be the first to tell you he doesn't think he's evil at all. He's just using whatever means necessary to change Echidna politics to agree and support his views, as well as those by The Dark Legion. 3) They did. It obviously wasn't enough. 4) It is assumed that their special connection to The Chaos Emerald keeps them all long-lived, and 5) Knuckles keeps Hawking's hat safe in his dwelling away from Echidnaopolis.

Well, that's it for this month. Thank you all for your comments. See you in thirty. And remember...

KEEP COOL!

Cover by Patrick Spaziant and Ken Penders. Colors and separations by Darrin Moore and Heroic Age.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

In one week: The Freedom Fighters reunite in secret and blast off into orbit to investigate the mysterious satellites (that have formed to become a mas-

sive space station) and who might be behind it all. You have three guesses - and the first two don't count! "The Truth Is Out There" is written by Karl Bollers with art by Butler and Eklund! Also: "Tales of the Great War, Pt. 3." By Ken Penders, Art Mawhinney and Jim Amash!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #74 on sale late June 1999!



Next Month: Now that Knuckles has asked Julie-Su on a date, he realizes that an even greater problem exists: What will they do on the date? He becomes



so absorbed with this dilemma, he completely forgets about his upcoming 16th birthday! Check out "It Could Be Love (I Should Have Known Better)" written by Ken Penders with art by Chris Allan and Andrew Pepoy! Also, the conclusion to the Mighty solo story by Penders, Galán and Pepoy.

KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #28 on sale early July 1999!

Guest-starring
Schr

Sabrina

THE TEENAGE WITCH

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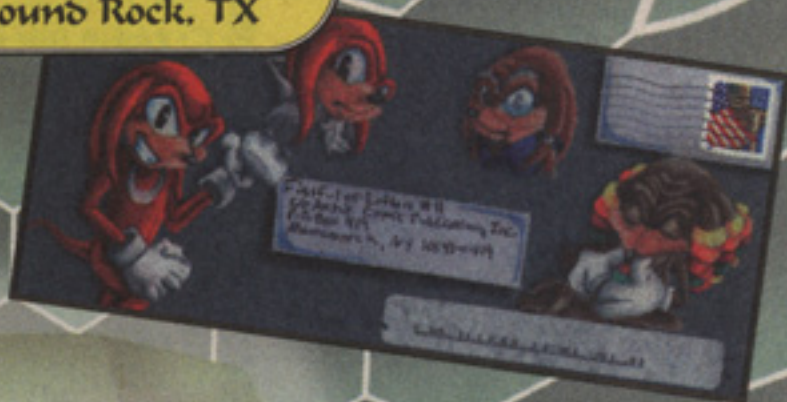
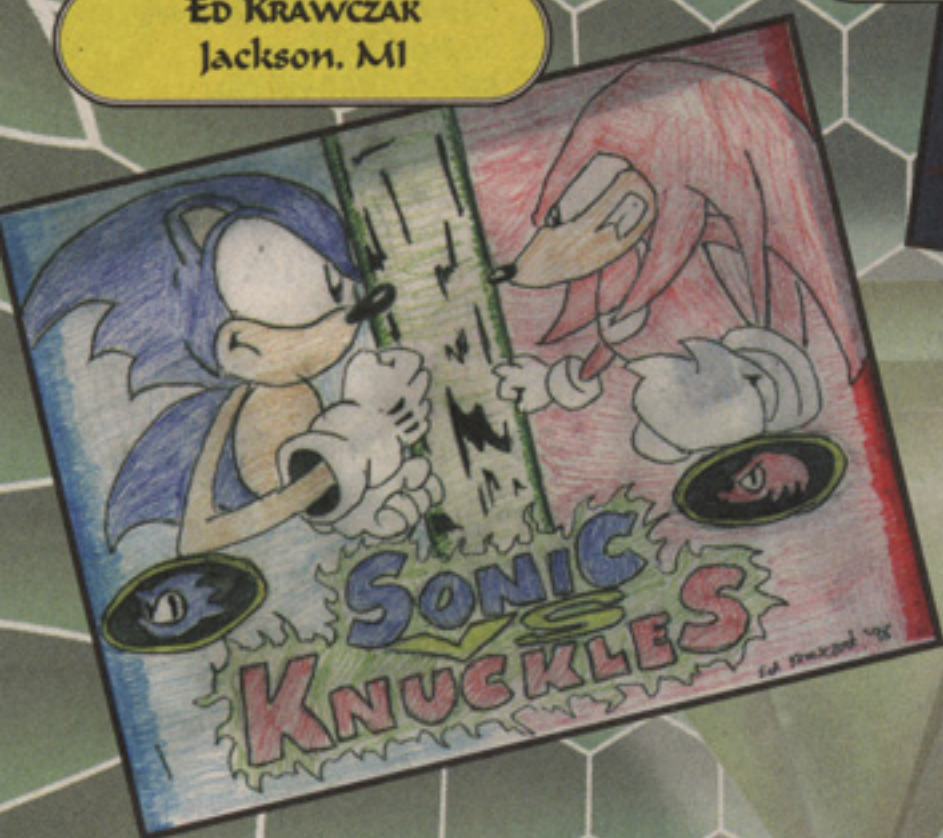
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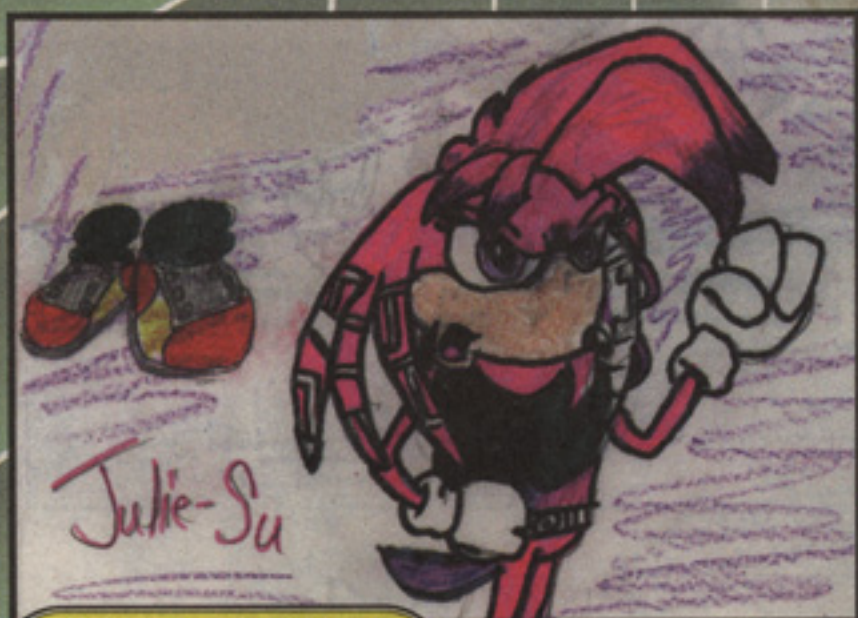
Valentine's PENGUINS

SARAH McSWAIN
(age 16)
Round Rock, TX

ED KRAWCZAK
Jackson, MI



JULIUS AGVISANDA
(age 11)
Honolulu, HI



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